

RAINIER ECHOES

Volume 2.4

Auburn Adventist Academy

December 2017

A Christmas Trip Down Memory Lane

Madlyn Ellis and Sienna Hubin



Rainier Echoes went around and asked staff members to recall some Christmas memories from the past. Here are the festive moments that stood out to them.

When asked what her favorite Christmas was, Mrs. Clemens said, "One Christmas, we took our kids to Leavenworth and there was a huge amount of snow. We stayed in a cabin and spent the whole day sledding. The best part was that some friends came along, so there were 6 kids and 4 adults, and we had a glow in the dark nerf war. It was the best nerf war ever! I think it was my favorite Christmas because it was completely opposite of what we'd ever done before. We ended the day by watching Pirates of the Caribbean."

Mrs. Kissinger remembers getting a visit from Santa Claus when she was four years old.

"He came with a sleigh and everything. He had the belly, the beard, the bag, but no reindeer. He told us that

his reindeer got sick so he had to use his horse. We then got to go on a little sleigh ride and it was even snowing. Later I found out it was my grandpa all dressed up."

"We usually have all our extended family over, but one year none of them could come, so we invited some friends over. Right before Christmas, their kids got pink eye and ended up not being able to come, so it was just the four of us. We were a little bummed because we're used to spending Christmas with a lot of people, but it turned out to be one of my favorite Christmases ever. It was so special because we played games, got to spend time together, and had Christmas dinner. Because there weren't a ton of people over, it was relaxing. It was very different than what we are used to, but it was really special celebrating Christmas just the four of us," said Mrs. Woody.

Mrs. Burke says that her family has a tradition of *(continued on page 2)*

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Wednesday Wisdom

"When we give cheerfully and accept gratefully, everyone is blessed."

- Maya Angelou

The ASB Squib

McKenna Butler

Spirit Week

- Monday - School Spirit
- Tuesday - Age Flip
- Wednesday - Heritage
- Thursday - Pajamas
- Friday - Fandom

Remember, dress code follows PE dress guidelines, and please respect the people around you as you figure out what you want to dress as. Merry Christmas!



(*Christmas Memory Lane continued from pg. 1*) buying a new version of the Christmas story and taking turns reading it aloud to each other on Christmas Eve. They open stockings on Christmas Eve and the rest of the presents first thing Christmas morning with bed hair and still in jammies. While opening presents, they designate a Santa in the group who has to wear a Santa hat and distribute

gifts one at a time. Mrs. Burke loves getting out decorations that her boys made in grade school and displaying them. "It warms my heart and brings back wonderful memories," she said.

Mrs. Tejel's favorite childhood Christmas memory is baking cookies with her mother. "She has a ginger-snap recipe that is a family secret and they're the best."

Mrs. Sandvik recalls her and her

twin sister saving up all their "bonus bucks" in school and buying each other little presents. "We'd wrap them up and put them under our little shared Christmas tree. We would exchange gifts and open a present each day from December 1 through Christmas Day."

Belize or Philippines?

Amber Pettey-Torres

For many people mission trips are spiritually fulfilling trips, especially if they take a person out of their comfort zone and onto a new continent! Auburn has two great missions trips planned this year to two very different places, Belize and the Philippines. Choosing to go on either trip this year is a good choice, but both have different advantages which this article will address. Pastor Jen, leader of the Belize trip, explained why she loves and values this trip so much, "We are on the site of an orphanage which means that we get so much one on one time to ministry and work with the kids." King's Children's Home is an orphanage in the city of Belmopan. is to give a safe, loving, Christian home to kids in need. The student missionaries

who go will spend over 75% of their time playing, teaching, and bonding with the kids.

The Philippines trip, on the other hand, is focuses on medical mission work. The leader of the Philippines trip, Pastor Jay, said, "What sets [the Philippines trip] apart is that it is primarily a medical trip giving young people time with doctors etc." While the missionaries have VBS at night with the kids, most of the day is spent in outreach clinics or the onsite hospital.

It truly is an amazing experience for anyone who is interested in a medical field and wants to serve others. Both trips are fantastic opportunities and help many people, they just have very different ways of showing God's love.



Sienna Hubin with children from Pagudpud, Philippines (PC: Sienna Hubin)



Past Schools in Belize 2016 (PC: Cliff Foster)

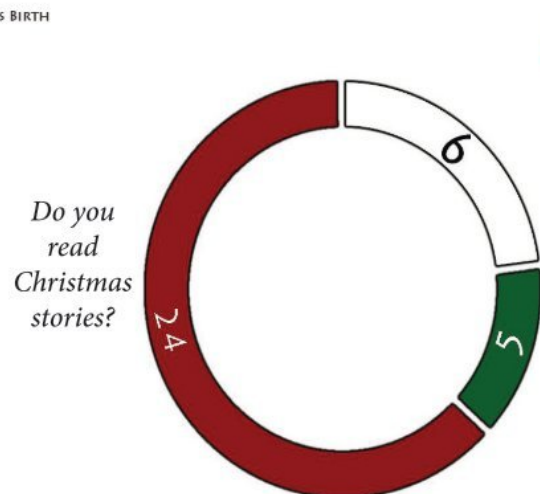
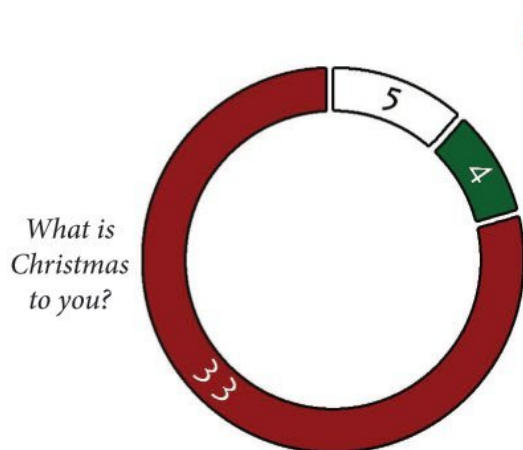
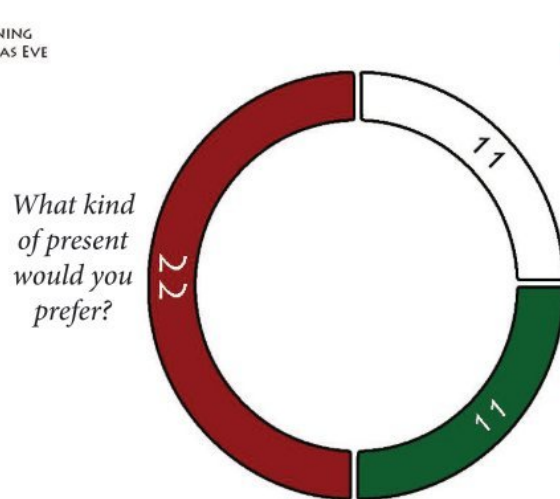
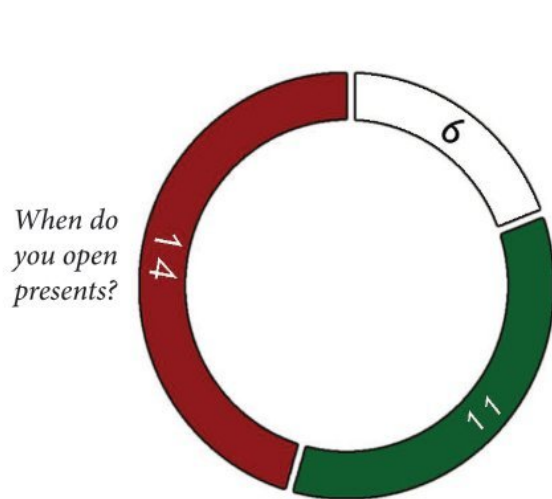
5 Tips if you plan on going on a mission trip:

- Bring more bug spray and sunscreen than you think you'll need because everyone will want to share
- Bring a towel for the beach and a towel for showering
- Bring shoes for work and shoes for walking
- Bring spending money
- Most importantly, don't let drama interfere with your experience

The Christmas Season is Upon Us!

Jed Coon and Bradley Hammond

Rainier Echoes held a few surveys about the unique traditions students at our school have over the holiday season. 50 random students were polled for these surveys, and they should help Auburn learn how its students celebrate the holiday season.



JINGLE BELLS WAS ORIGINALLY A THANKSGIVING SONG



English Club Writing Contest

During November, the English Club held a writing contest at BV. LeAnn Trussell, English Club President, contacted the newspaper staff about publishing the winning poem in the Rainier Echoes. Eighth-grader Joel Monterrosa won first place with his poem, "A Tradition Worth Singing For," which is below.

A Tradition Worth Singing For!

*"Music plays in the living room
The fire in the hearth crackles and
plumes.
Pine needles lay strewn 'cross the
floor
The exact same setting as the Christ-
mas before.
Okay, this isn't exactly the truth.
The fire is low
The music is mute.
The living room is clean
No needles in sight.
A silent and cool mid-December night.
All of the household, snug in their
beds
Christmas themed dreams run
through their heads.
But one teenage child tosses and
turns.
And shoots his head up, then looks
'round his room.
He sees nothing, he's tired, but now
he can't sleep.
So he goes downstairs for some water
to drink.
The living room stands cool and bare.
Not a decoration to be seen any-
where.
He gets a glass, and starts to drink.
He guzzles it down and leaves the
cup in the sink.
Then, he hears a small, quiet 'pop' in
the hearth.
So walked round the furniture and
stumbled through the dark
And he sat by the small, dying flame.
He began to doze, then started to
dream.
He dreamt of the Christmas of the
year before.
And then he awoke by the sound of
his own snore.
He let out a sigh, now he won't sleep.
Feeling, kinda bored, he began to
think.*

*Of things to do to make him fall
asleep.
He snuck into his parents' room and
searched for their phone.
He moved around the room as he lay
down prone.
A glimmer shone and hit the corner of
his eye.
He'd spotted it next his father's white
tie.
Quickly, he grabbed it, and speed-
crawled out the room.
And again sat by the fire, then looked
up some tunes.
He plugged in some earbuds and put
the buds in his ears.
He dozed off to sleep and he didn't
wake.
'till morning came 'round when he
woke up with a quake.
His brother had kicked him right on
shin.
Overnight, the earbud input had come
unhinged.
Christmas music sounded round the
house,
And awakened the family as if they'd
been doused.
But they weren't quite angry, happy in
fact.
From that day on, we made a pact.
That said we'd wake up to music
everyday.
At Christmas time of course, that goes
without saying.
There's still no tree, no fire, but you
bet there's music,
And a whole family of people to sing
it.
This is my tradition, from me to you,
But of course, summed up in this
page or two."*

-Joel Monterrosa
Eighth Grade

A New Season Brings New Hope for the Falcons

Carson Fletcher

The 2017 Falcons basketball season is underway. Angel Ogando, the boys varsity coach, said he is excited to see the team, "Play with excellence, honor the King, and represent Falcon athletics." The boys varsity has started off the season 0-3 and has yet to win a game. The boys junior varsity, however, is off to a great start with a record of 3-1. Junior varsity member Charles



2017 Women's varsity basketball (PC: The Nest)

Rawls said, "I think we have had a good start so far, I think we could work on our ball movement, but as the season goes on we will only get better and that is exciting."

The girls varsity basketball team is coached by Derek Brizendine. He said, "I am very excited to coach such a young team. It's going to be a fun season with lots of learning and growth. The girls are showing grit and hard work and that's all I could ask for." The girls varsity won their first game of the year against the Tacoma Baptist Crusaders, bringing their record to 1-2. The girls junior varsity team is also a group of young players ready to learn. They won their first game due to forfeit and their second game against the Tacoma Baptist Crusaders, and have a record of 2-2.

CHRISTMAS SENDS AT LEAST 15,000 PEOPLE TO THE ER



SFC Inquiry

Arien Cabanilla



Subcommittees were formed to discuss the pros/cons of headphones, merit/demerit policies, and possibly having a student center.

Possible senior privileges were brought up, such as special chapel seating, Casual Friday, and campus leave.

The need to update the dress code was addressed.

If you have anything you'd like SFC to discuss, you can write a note and put it in the red ASB suggestion box.

THE GERMANS MADE THE FIRST ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREES OUT OF DYED GOOSE FEATHERS.



Guest Writers Wanted!



Rainier Echoes is a student-lead newspaper, so anyone interested in writing can submit an article, announcement, story, or activity to the newspaper. Simply drop off a copy of your submission to Mrs. Kobberstad for review, and you can add your touch to the newspaper.

The Legend of the Candy Cane

Unknown Author (Found by Lindsey Reed)

Many years ago, a candy maker wanted to make a candy at Christmas time that would serve as a witness to his Christian faith. He wanted to incorporate several symbols for the birth, ministry and death of Jesus. He began with a stick of pure white hard candy; white to symbolize the Virgin Birth and the sinless nature of Jesus; firmness to represent the promise of God.

The candymaker made the candy in the form of a "J" to represent the name of Jesus, who came to earth as our Savior. He thought it could also represent the staff of the Good Shepherd, with which he reached down into the

ditches of the world to lift out the fallen lambs who, like all sheep have gone astray.

Thinking that the candy was somewhat plain, the candymaker stained it with red stripes. He used three small stripes to show the stripes of the scourging Jesus received, by which we are healed. The large red stripe for the blood shed by Christ on the cross so that we could have the promise of eternal life. Unfortunately, the candy became known as a candy cane - a meaningless decoration seen at Christmas time. But the true meaning is still there for those who have eyes to see and ears to hear.

RAINIER ECHOES

GAMES

Word Search

WORD LIST:

U V K J P O K H J S H N J N D A E V F R
B M Q K F F E F U Z K M Q H R Z G O Y T
S Z M P J D T G B Z R E I N D E E R G M
W J S H C Y S Z O C H A H O L L Y P N J
O R H H G Z T S H Y Q W O P L X G U D E
V B F Y A U T R T I J B C G V I S N B B
J O L L Y I I P K C B A D M N L I D S N
R W Y U S S L D S E J K J G L A F O M Z
D E Y Y T S O M T E N B E E H L O J E U
X U G M G X C H F A P R B M X K V L K X
Q G A N D Y L T M R B E O U O V F Q F Z
M S S K A E Y W E R L B V W L O G O E K
L I H Z H M O S E G G A I M T U S A D N
P H M E R N E A N P J E Y J X N T D K K
H A M I S N D I W F C O I W Y N V Q F I
A J B H T K J H W B F B P Y A V J T S S
Q N B S O T J E N A C Y D N A C R P O W
K J H B R R U R Y T I V I T A N Q I K B
E Y G S O L Z M E J C S Q W C Z C I H G
E S Y P J V D H P S L M I S T L E T O E

BETHLEHEM
CANDYCANE
CHRISTMAS
ELF
GINGERBREAD
HOLLY
JINGLEBELLS
JOLLY
MANGER
MISTLETOE
NATIVITY
PRESENTS
REINDEER
SNOWMAN

What Does Christmas Mean to You?

Derek Slavens

Christmas is a time of year that means something different to everyone. For some it may be a time of happiness and family and to others it may bring back negative memories from the past. Here is how a few members of our Auburn family answered the question, "What does Christmas mean to you?"

Charles Rawls

"A time of family and a time for receiving and giving."

Carson Fletcher

"This year, Christmas means I get to see my brother Charlie who has been in Spain for the year."

Coach Adams

"Christmas is a time where friends and family get together and it's just a time to enjoy each other's company."

Sarahi Villegas

"Christmas to me means family time and being with friends and spending time together because that's really important."

Minkyu Park

"Christmas... It's my favorite holiday."

Unique Burton

"It means good food, bonding with your family and the birth of Jesus and my sister."

Harrison Fineout

"Family."

Mr. Underhill

"Nothing."

Mr. Russell

"A break from the rest of life."

Mickey Demma

"It's something to look forward to because it means it's almost a new year."



Its Beginning to Look a Lot Like Wish-mas

Sophia Lorge

The week before Thanksgiving break, ASB handed students and staff a slip titled Winter Wishes. On this slip they wrote a wish for themselves and two wishes for other people. These wishes could be anything, from a \$5 Starbucks drink, to \$1,000 to pay for a students mission trip. Over the course of Thanksgiving break, those wishes were compiled into a large spreadsheet and wish slips were made. All gifts are tied to a number on the spreadsheet that only a few ASB members can view. This creates a system of anonymous giving because the wish granters do not know who they are buying the gift for, and the wish recipient does not know who purchased the gift for them.

The wish slips are located in the academic arena next to the ASB office. They are pinned onto three boards that are all categorized differently. The categories are; Food/Drink, Clothing,

Gift Cards, Technology and Big Wishes. Students, staff, and even church members can come by and grab a wish slip that they want to grant. Once the wish has been purchased, ASB members collect the wish and the wish slip and find its correlating number in the spreadsheet. Next, ASB members will hand deliver these gifts to the recipients, bringing Christmas joy to both the giver and the receiver.

I am excited to bring this new tradi-

tion to Auburn Academy. It is my hope that Winter Wishes will continue to grow in popularity over the years. My personal Winter Wish this Christmas is that every student will feel compelled to get involved in the season of giving. As a student body, I believe that it is extremely important for us to find joy in giving without expecting anything in return. Happy holidays from your devoted ASB Activity Coordinator.



Winter Wishes boards displayed in the hallways for all students to see (PC: Bradley Hammond)

The Matchmaker's Journey

McKenna Butler

The Auburn Adventist Academy Church began Journey to Bethlehem (J2B) by premiering its new script, *The Matchmaker* on Thursday, December 17.

J2B is the AAA Church's Christmas pageant taken to a whole new level. With over 300 actors in costume plus 100 uncostumed volunteers, this interactive, walk-through experience is truly unique for everyone who participates.



Stallers keep warm by a fire outside of Bethlehem' (PC: Gudmundur Ibsen)

Without the 100+ volunteers who give their Sunday mornings and weekday evenings the set would never be completed," Joseph Underhill commented.

This year marked a new record for J2B. 6184 guests waited in line and walked through the journey. That is only approximately 20 less than went through previously when the AAA community did two weekends.

Another striking fact from this year is of a woman who might have given birth at the manger scene on Friday night. While waiting in line, this mother-to-be began having contractions and called her doctor. They recommended that she come to the hospital right way. Instead, she said that her number had just been called for J2B and that she'd come right after she went through! As the woman walked through, she had to stop several times

"I think it's cool to act with people I wouldn't normally interact with," said senior, Hayden Watson. "As the nights went on, I would make jokes with specific people each time I went through." The students and staff at Auburn were so involved that the school-day schedules actually changed for both Thursday and Friday to accommodate.

Months of preparation go into the success of this program. "Setting up for J2B requires a gargantuan effort.

because of labor pains, to the distress of the staff. She was able to finish her journey without incident however, and the baby was officially born on Sunday.

Journey to Bethlehem never ceases to amaze with miracles of weather, health, and even life.



Groom (Benjamin) with his parents (Mr. and Mrs. Fackenthall) (PC: Heidi Baumgartner)

A Weekend of Music

Mickey Demma

Auburn Adventist Academy's annual Christmas Musical Performance weekend began with a bang as senior Carson Fletcher performed, "What Child is This?" on the piano to begin Friday night vespers. The Orchestra then filled the Academy Church with beautiful music as they performed three pieces prior to Sylvan's performance. Sylvan began their first song while standing in the aisles, surprising the audience. They eventually paused their verses and assembled on the stage. Following Sylvan, Wind Ensemble performed three arrangements.



AAA's Jazz Band (PC: Bradley Hammond)

Church on Sabbath involved part of Handel's *Messiah* and two of Auburn's teachers performing a piano duet. The wonderful combination of symphony and chorale was performed mostly by students, although staff and even some alumni added their voices or instruments to the group. Washington Conference President Doug Bing provided narration, and the vocal soloists included Jim Harris, Arien Cabanilla, Stephanie Case, Salissa Tonkin, Heidi Kissinger, Grace Strong, Rachel Singer, and Matthew Sandvik. Partway through the performance, Auburn's bell choir, *Tintinnabulation*, provided the offertory. This performance's end was marked by Mr. Fackenthall's closing remarks and prayer.

Later that evening, Auburn's Jazz Band put on a fine show during their annual Christmas benefits concert. They played classics, including "Baby it's Cold Outside", "Rock Around the Christmas Tree", and "A Charlie Brown Christmas". The band paused after a few pieces to let Mrs. Fackenthall play her self-arranged Christmas compilation for piano. After a few more pieces the band **(continued on page 5)**

(Weekend of Music continued from pg. 1) finished and Mr. Russell thanked everyone for their attendance. Students' attitudes toward their musical ministry are summed up by a line from Mrs. Williams' prayer; "We hope that we have been sweet music to [God's] ear, and an honor to [God]."



ACCORDING TO THE GUINNESS WORLD RECORDS, THE TALLEST CHRISTMAS TREE EVER CUT WAS A 221-FOOT DOUGLAS FIR THAT WAS DISPLAYED IN 1950 AT THE NORTHGATE SHOPPING CENTER IN SEATTLE, WASHINGTON.



RAINIER ECHOES

GAMES

Coloring Pictures

